

**Urban District of Heanor.**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**Medical Officer of Health**

**AND**

**Chief Sanitary Inspector**

**FOR**

**THE YEAR 1946.**

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**P. H. J. TURTON, M.D., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Vict.).**

**Medical Officer of Health.**

**A. A. WILSON, M.C., M.R.S.I.,**

**Chief Sanitary Inspector.**

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**HEANOR**

**Arthur Gaunt & Sons (Printers) Limited  
Market Place**



# Heanor Urban District Council

**1946.**

*Chairman of the Council:* COUNCILLOR T. A. SAXTON.

*Vice-Chairman:* COUNCILLOR F. E. BROWN.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

*Chairman:* COUNCILLOR H. B. HUNT.

COUN. C. W. BAKER.	COUN. MRS. D. NEAL, J.P., C.C.
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„ J. W. KEW.	„ C. B. WOOD, J.P., C.C.
„ J. W. LILLEY.	

## **PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.**

*Medical Officer of Health :*

(a) (b) P. H. J. TURTON, M.D., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Vict.).

*Chief Sanitary Inspector :*

(a) A. A. WILSON, M.C., M.R.S.I. (1, 2, 3, 4, 5).

*Additional Sanitary Inspector :*

(a) H. W. JEFFORD, S.I.J.B. (6).

*Clerks :* S. B. PARKIN and S. V. WARD.

*Shops Inspector :* C. G. BASSFORD.

*Rodent Operator :* T. ANTCLIFFE.

*Nurses under the Derbyshire C.C. Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme and  
Tuberculosis Regulations :*

MISS B. S. STEVENS. MISS E. WEBB.

- (a) Salaries contributed to under Exchequer Grants.
- (b) Part time.
- (1) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector.
- (2) Certificate of San. Assoc. Scotland, Sanitary Science.
- (3) Certificate of San. Assoc. Scotland, Inspector of Meat and Foods.
- (4) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute, Smoke Inspector.
- (5) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute, Advanced Knowledge.
- (6) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examining Board as Sanitary Inspector.



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**FOR**  
**THE YEAR 1946.**

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Heanor Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

If, in the words of Madame de Sevigné, "*Je laisse trotter ma plume*" once more, I am under no illusion that the time is not far off when I shall no longer "let my pen trot," but lay it down. "Amid the rapid changes which the country's industrial and administrative framework is undergoing, little attention has been directed to the effect on local government. Yet it deserves thinking about. Two tendencies may be discerned. One is to take powers and functions away from the smaller local authorities and concentrate them in the hands of county and county borough councils. The other is to take them away altogether and transfer them to appointed boards which form part of the nation's ever growing centralised bureaucracy."

Thus appetite grows with eating. The big fleas, no longer content with having the smaller fleas on their backs as in the proverb, now seek to swallow all—both little and lesser, in an ever widening circle. The map of England is in process of being changed; even whole counties are threatened with extinction. Lancashire may well have to submit to being carved into Ridings, the effect of which would be to submerge completely the identity of a number of boroughs. But if the experiment is tried of cutting off portions of Welsh counties and tacking them on to English counties, the spirit of wrath which is inherent in the hearts and minds of Welsh nationalists will surely be aroused. If, as Napoleon is said to have declared, "God is on the side of the big battalions," the Government is likely to be on the side of the big councils or regional boards.

In the nineteenth century, local government grew up on the idea that efficiency went with decentralisation: that it was unwise for the organisation to be too big, and that the men on the spot could deal with local problems

more efficiently and expeditiously than the unknown and unapproachable gentlemen secure in the distant fastnesses of Whitehall. It is mere hair-splitting to say that the regions and their staffs are evidence of decentralisation.

The more remote the control, the more remote the interest, and the retardation of progress leaves the local inhabitants bemused and bewildered. It is one of the tragedies of modern times that their faith in the power of official controls will set right their present discontents. But to make plans on paper is about as effective as performing tactical exercises without troops. In November, 1946, the total manpower of fourteen essential industries was 657,000 or twenty-two per cent below that in mid-1939 and *The Financial Times* on January 21st 1947 made this comment: "At one and the same time we are endeavouring to raise consumption standards, re-equip industry, build millions of houses, re-distribute wealth, increase social services, raise exports far above pre-war, shorten working hours—and do all that with a reduced labour force. In the long run, these objectives may not be incompatible with each other; in the short run many of them are. . . . There are projects at home, some of them controversial, which can be postponed. But overseas requirements may be more exigent. As in 1940 so in 1947, time is what we need most." The crying need to-day in this district is for housing, but at this time you are witnessing the erection of elaborate prefabricated class rooms. Houses to live in are surely more essential than class rooms to swot in. Too much is being attempted at once with too little, especially when there are 1,500 applications on the housing register.

The health services proposed follow the usual pattern of whittling away more of the local authorities' powers and putting in their place remote regional boards which bear a remarkable likeness to the satrapies of Oliver Cromwell and his major-generals who ruled England on a regional system. In *A National Health Service* (Cmd. 6502) p. 8 you will find this naïve statement, "There is a certain danger in making personal health the subject of a national service at all. It is the danger of over-organisation, of letting the machine designed to ensure a better service itself stifle the chances of getting one." One does not share the optimistic hopes that "it is feasible to combine public responsibility and a full service with the essential elements of personal and professional freedom for the patient and the doctor." The two are not compatible. I have heard these sentiments expressed before in other fields where subsequently the organisation stifled the victims, until a rebellious spirit broke loose. It is not strange that among many in our staple industry there should be heard frequent complaints of being hustled around by hordes of officials, and that paper work prevents the proper carrying out of duties. The medical press is bespattered with letters from doctors who are more concerned with rota duty, conditions of service, and such like matters than what is to become of the customer in whose name all these grandiose schemes are planned. But there are not enough doctors to work the round,

the hospitals are crippled for lack of nurses, the birth rate goes up whilst the midwives go down, and maternity wards are shutting their doors.

In this district it takes twelve months to get a tuberculous patient admitted to the Walton Sanatorium. That is not the fault of this local authority; the responsibility for providing a tuberculosis service belongs to the county council which under the national health service will be the local authority. For you, as an Urban Authority, will have very little say in the health affairs of your district and practically nothing at all in the hospital services which will be controlled by a regional hospital board. Someone may say that it is not the intention to close down local councils. That is not the point. It is, that if by filching from them piecemeal their most important and interesting duties and making them more and more mere agents to collect rents and rates, not only their prestige will suffer but their usefulness will disappear. It can be argued very convincingly that local authorities should be closed down altogether and their affairs be conducted by officials either from the region or the centre. But that would be as disastrous in the long run as abolishing family life and insisting that the continuity of the race be maintained by official rule over the lives of the people. It can be argued that it is wasteful of land, labour and materials to house each family unit and that it would be more efficient to concentrate them into barracks and select from their number those who should breed the offspring brought up in official institutions. But who, except those who are completely devoid of any sense of individuality, would submit to such a system as that?

It was the merit of the great Roman Emperors to provide a professional and permanent service to run the Empire and in his *Legacy of Rome*, Sir H. Stuart Jones has this passage: "Augustus and the best and ablest of his successors patiently built up, for an Empire consisting in part of small town-territories with traditions of particularism, and in part of wide spaces tenanted by tribes of many races and cultures, a framework within which men could, on the whole, work out their own salvation, could be drawn together in mutual understanding, and could acquire a wholly new patriotism, linked with the great traditions of Rome, and a new spirit of public service. This achievement was due to the practical genius of the Romans, who excelled in the adaptation of old means to new ends. But their very success dug the pitfall which entrapped them. They mistook the means for the end, and forgot (as the best of administrators are prone to do) that the State was made for man and not man for the State."

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,  
PHILIP TURTON.



# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (in acres) ... ..	4,636
Population (mid-June) ... ..	23,270
Number of Inhabited Houses ... ..	6,406
Rateable Value ... ..	£107,156
Product of Penny Rate ... ..	£401
Live Births—	Males. Females. Total.
Legitimate ... ..	239 184 423
Illegitimate... ..	10 7 17
Totals ... ..	249 191 440
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... ..	18.9
Number of Still Births ... ..	8 5 13
Rate of Still Births per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... ..	28.69
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... ..	10.48
Deaths and Death Rates from Puerperal Causes:—	
	No. of Deaths Rate per 1,000 of Live and Still Births
Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis ... ..	0 0.00
Other Maternal Causes ... ..	1 2.20
Totals ... ..	1 2.20
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—	
All infants (per 1,000 live births) ... ..	61.36
Legitimate infants (per 1,000 legitimate live births) ... ..	61.46
Illegitimate Infants (per 1,000 illegitimate live births) ... ..	58.82
Deaths and Death Rates from:—	
	No. of Deaths Rate per 1,000 of estimated population
Cancer (all ages) ... ..	41 1.76
Measles (all ages) ... ..	0 —
Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	2 0.08
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	3 0.12

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The infantile mortality rate for the year under review was 61.36 per 1,000 live births, compared with 50.39 in 1945, 49.11 in 1944, 76.0 in 1943, 60.1 in 1942, and 20.4 in 1941.



# BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1946.

	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population.		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population							Rate per 1,000 Live Births.		
	Live Births.	Still Births.	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Smallpox	Measles.	Diarrhoea & Enteritis. Total Deaths under two years of age.	Total Deaths under one year.
England and Wales	19.1	0.53	11.5	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.15	0.00	0.00	4.4	43
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	22.2	0.67	12.7	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.13	0.00	0.01	6.1	46
148 Smaller Towns 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census	21.3	0.59	11.7	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.14	0.00	0.00	2.8	37
London	21.5	0.54	12.7	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.12	—	0.01	4.2	41
Heanor U.D.	18.9	0.56	10.5	—	—	0.08	0.04	0.12	—	—	6.8	61

# MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1946.

	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live & Still).		Notifications Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.									
	Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever Notifications.	Maternal Mortality	Typhoid Fever.	Paratyphoid Fever.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Smallpox.	Measles.	Pneumonia.
England and Wales	8.50	1.43	0.01	0.02	0.05	1.38	2.28	0.28	0.22	0.00	3.92	0.89
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	10.35	—	0.01	0.02	0.05	1.51	2.48	0.32	0.25	0.00	4.73	1.02
148 Smaller Towns 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census	7.63	—	0.01	0.01	0.04	1.33	2.05	0.31	0.22	0.00	3.70	0.74
London	9.68	—	0.01	0.01	0.06	1.42	2.22	0.24	0.27	0.00	7.35	0.75
Heanor U.D.	8.83	2.20	0.04	—	0.21	1.97	7.26	0.67	0.47	—	3.48	1.84

# **VARIOUS CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1946.**

	Total	M.	F.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ... ..	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	2	1	1
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	2	0	2
Diphtheria... ..	1	1	0
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	4	3	1
Other Forms of Tuberculosis... ..	3	2	1
Syphilis ... ..	1	1	0
Influenza ... ..	3	2	1
Measles ... ..	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ... ..	0	0	0
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	0	0	0
Cancer: Oesophagus and Buccal Cavity ... ..	0	0	0
„ Uterus ... ..	8	0	8
„ Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	9	7	2
„ Breast ... ..	5	0	5
„ All other Sites ... ..	19	15	4
Diabetes ... ..	2	0	2
Intracranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	17	9	8
Heart Disease ... ..	51	27	24
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ... ..	4	3	1
Bronchitis ... ..	18	11	7
Pneumonia... ..	13	7	6
Other Respiratory Disease ... ..	2	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	2	2	0
Diarrhoea, under 2 years ... ..	3	1	2
Appendicitis ... ..	3	2	1
Other Digestive Diseases ... ..	12	2	10
Nephritis ... ..	6	2	4
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	0	0	0
Other Maternal Causes ... ..	1	0	1
Premature Birth (Registrar-General's figures) ... ..	8	5	3
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries or Infantile Diseases ... ..	6	4	2
Suicide ... ..	4	3	1
Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	1	1	0
Other Violent Causes ... ..	8	4	4
All other Causes ... ..	26	12	14
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>116</b>

**NUMBERS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES ORIGINALLY NOTIFIED AND OF THE FINAL NUMBERS AFTER CORRECTIONS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1946.**

Disease.	Quarter Ended 31/3/46			Quarter Ended 30/6/46			Quarter Ended 30/9/46			Quarter Ended 31/12/46			Totals for The Year		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
Scarlet Fever ... ..	18	—	18	10	—	10	13	2	11	7	—	7	48	2	46
Diphtheria ... ..	5	—	5	7	1	6	2	—	2	2	—	2	16	1	15
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	2	—	2	1	—	1	4	2	2	—	—	—	7	2	5
Dysentery ... ..	3	—	3	—	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	—	6	—	6
Measles ... ..	1	—	1	5	—	5	5	—	5	70	—	70	81	—	81
Whooping Cough ... ..	25	—	25	29	—	29	60	1	60	55	—	55	169	1	169
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1
Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia ... ..	24	—	24	7	—	7	7	—	7	5	—	5	43	—	43
Erysipelas ... ..	2	—	2	2	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	11	—	11
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	—	1	2	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	4
TOTAL Notifications received	81	—	81	63	1	62	99	5	94	144	—	144	387	6	381

A—Nos. Originally Notified. B—Later Withdrawn. C—Final Nos. After Correction.

In addition to the above a suspected case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever was removed to Hospital for observation, but proved to be a case of Subarachnoid Haemorrhage. (No official notification was received).



# 1. IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1946.						
Age at 31/12/46 i.e. Born in Year ...	Under 1 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942	5 to 9 1937-41
Number Immunised...	4	271	410	350	317	1590
Estimated Mid-Year Population 1946	1983					3233
						5216
						Total under 15
						4389

# 2. DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS IN RELATION TO IMMUNISATION.

NOTIFICATIONS.			DEATHS.		
Age at date of Notifica- tion.	Number of Cases Notified.	No. of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation.	Age at date of Death.	Number of Deaths.	No. of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation.
Under 1 ...	—	—	Under 1 ...	—	—
1 ...	—	—	1 ...	—	—
2 ...	1	0	2 ...	—	—
3 ...	1	1	3 ...	—	—
4 ...	—	—	4 ...	—	—
5 to 9 ...	5	2	5 to 9 ...	1	0
10 to 14 ...	4	4	10 to 14 ...	—	—
Totals ...	11	7	Totals ...	1	0



## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

381 cases were reported during the year under review; whooping cough accounted for 169 of these and measles for 81 cases. Scarlet fever cases declined to 46 cases, being about one quarter of the number in 1945.

**DIPHTHERIA**—16 cases were notified and 13 cases were removed to Isolation Hospital, 1 notification being withdrawn, leaving a total of 15 cases. The following table shows how the cases stood in relation to immunisation. One <sup>un</sup>immunised case died; 7 of the cases had been immunised previously. It will be noticed that all of the cases immunised had been treated with T.A.F. In this area only A.P.T. is now used and the parents are advised to bring their children for a re-inforcing injection at about five years of age and before entering school. In 1946, 17 children were given a secondary or re-inforcing injection of A.P.T.

During 1946, a total of 421 children were immunised; 374 of this number were under five years of age and 47 were aged five to fourteen years. In addition to these there were 17 other secondary cases mentioned above. The percentage of children immunised at 31/12/46 was:—

Under five years of age ... ..	68%
Over five and under fifteen years ... ..	94%

1946.

### Cases of DIPHTHERIA in relation to IMMUNISATION

Case No.	Date Notification Received 1946	Age at Date of Notification	Sex	Immunised	
				Yes	No
1	16.2	20 yrs.	M		No
2	22.2	6 "	M		No
3	26.2	5 "	M		No (Died)
4	13.3	8 "	M		No
5	19.3	2 "	M		No
6	18.4	10 "	F	TAF 1941	
7	4.5	5 "	F	TAF 1943	
8	7.5	13 "	M	TAF 1939?	
9	9.5	42 "	F		No
10	23.5	40 "	F		No
11	28.6	10 "	F	TAF 1941	
12	11.7	23 "	F		No
13	9.8	10 "	M	TAF 1942	
14	4.11	5 "	M	TAF 1943	
15	13.11	3 "	M	APT 1944	



**SCARLET FEVER**—48 cases were notified, 2 being withdrawn later. One of these turned out to be chicken pox. No deaths occurred. The majority of the cases were of a mild type. 20 cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital at Belper.

**ERYSIPELAS**—11 cases were notified. No cases were removed and none died.

**PNEUMONIA**—43 cases were notified and 20 were removed to hospital. Cases are treated at the local hospital. 13 deaths occurred during the year.

**MEASLES**—81 cases were notified. At 15/12/46 only 21 cases had been notified. Cases of this disease are never removed to Isolation Hospital from this area, as it is much safer to treat them at home and not to involve them in risks of cross-infection. No deaths occurred.

**WHOOPIING COUGH**—169 cases were notified. All were treated at home. 2 deaths occurred, giving an annual death rate of 0.08 per 1,000 of the population.

**CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER**—7 cases were notified, 2 being withdrawn, leaving 5 established cases. Two cases died, one being a girl aged two years. The other was a boy aged  $2\frac{3}{4}$  years, who died 5 days prior to notification being received. This case of course died at home. Cases of this disease are treated at the Derby Borough Isolation Hospital, the Borough providing both hospital and ambulance service by arrangement with the Council. One suspected case was removed to this hospital, but on examination proved to be subarachnoid haemorrhage. Again no notification was received for this case.

**DYSENTERY**—6 cases were notified. None was removed to hospital and all recovered. All the cases were due to *B. dysenteriae* Sonn .

**PUERPERAL PYREXIA**—4 cases were notified. All were removed to hospital and all recovered. The Council has an arrangement with the County Council for all cases to be admitted to the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary for treatment. The notification rate was 8.83 per 1,000 total births, compared with 8.50 for England and Wales.

**TYPHOID FEVER**—One case in a female aged 36 years was notified following her return from a holiday at Aberystwyth. Her illness was due to eating infected ice cream, although her son who had consumed the bulk of it escaped. The case was removed to Belper and recovered. The occurrence was reported to the M.O.H. of Aberystwyth and the Ministry of Health.

**PARATYPHOID FEVER**—One case was notified in an elderly man. The case was removed to Belper as he was very ill, although subsequent investigation proved his illness to be due to *B. Aertrycke*. Shortly before his illness commenced he had been in contact with a relative who had recently been ill with diarrhoea whilst on service in Germany. This man stated that a number of men in his unit had been similarly affected after eating pork. He was found to be a carrier of the same organism as the man removed to hospital. The Army Authorities were notified.

#### SMALL POX

#### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

#### ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA

#### ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

No cases notified.

**TUBERCULOSIS**—19 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 2 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. 6 cases of pulmonary and 1 case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were removed to hospital. For details, see Table. The notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis showed an increase of 8 over the previous year. Tuberculosis of the respiratory system caused 4 deaths and other forms of tuberculosis 3 deaths in 1946 (Registrar-General's figures).

Age periods.	New Cases Notified.				Deaths.			
			Non-				Non-	
	Pulmonary		pulmonary		Pulmonary		pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
5-15 ...	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
15-25 ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 ...	2	6	—	—	—	1	—	—
35-45 ...	1	2	—	—	4	—	—	—
45-55 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>

**INFLUENZA**—During a fairly smart epidemic of Influenza in the early part of the year a number of sera were submitted to the National Institute for Medical Research at Hampstead. One of these proved to be

an unequivocal case of Influenza A. This was of some interest as the epidemic of January was due to Influenza B. In January 1947 a case of Influenza was a possible Influenza A.; although the rise in titre was slight the first specimen showed a high value which was probably due to its being taken rather late in the illness.

**SCABIES AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS**—102 cases were reported (79 scabies, 23 lice). A small cleansing station is provided by the Council for use by those cases where treatments cannot be carried out at home. An efficient steam disinfecter (pressure) is required to deal with infected clothing, etc., not only for verminous cases but infectious cases as well.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply is satisfactory both in quantity and quality. The whole of the district is supplied by the Ilkeston & Heanor Water Board whose works are at Whatstandwell in the Derwent Valley. Frequent bacteriological and chemical examinations are made of the raw and treated water. Samples of treated water are examined by the Public Analyst, Nottingham. The results in 1946 were satisfactory. Considerable wastage and trouble arises from subsidence due to extensive coal mining. There are only 17 standpipes which supply approximately 20 houses, out of 6,406.

The treated water has no plumbo-solvent action. It contains about 1.5 parts per million of fluorine. A representative analysis is appended.

**REPORT OF ANALYSIS** of Waters received 16th October, 1946, from Heanor Urban District Council. Mark: Bulk sample from the four bottles for chemical analysis.

This sample contains per 100,000 parts:—

Total Solids dried at 180°C.	22.0
Suspended Matter	absent
Chlorides as chlorine	2.13
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrate	absent
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrite	absent
Free Ammonia	0.0040
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0012
Temporary Hardness	7.00
Permanent Hardness	5.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80°F.	
from N/80 KMnO <sub>4</sub>	0.008
pH value	7.90
Appearance	clear and bright
Odour	none
Taste and Colour	normal
Heavy Metals	absent
Free Chlorine	absent

	1	2	3	4
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21°C. in 72 hrs.	7	2	25	20
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 24 hrs.	2	0	0	2
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	2	2	2	300
Coli—aerogenes count per 100 mls. at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0	1	0
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44°C. in 48 hrs.	1	0	0	0
Bacillus Coli (Presumptive)				
Present in	—	—	100 mls.	—
Absent in	100 mls.	100 mls.	50 mls.	100 mls.

At the time of sampling these waters were of satisfactory chemical and bacterial quality for human consumption, domestic use and dairy purposes.

W. W. TAYLOR, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

# REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE HEANOR URBAN DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Heanor Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1946.

During the year a fair number of improvements were effected. The public health side of local government covers a very wide field, as it touches life at every stage, and whilst environmental hygiene occupies much time, another responsibility of importance these days is the protection of the public against unfit or impure food.

The present position regarding the repair and reconditioning of dwellings and other premises is one of difficulty owing to shortage of materials, but it is hoped that this shortage will prove to be temporary and that in the not too distant future there will ultimately be full supplies of labour, materials and equipment, to increase the physical welfare, health and happiness of the community.

## VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE, 1946.

During the year 8,256 visits and inspections were made as follows:—

Appointments with Owners, Agents and Builders	...	...	...	...	864
Premises Inspected on Complaint	...	...	...	...	262
Caravans, Tents and Similar Structures	...	...	...	...	91
Cinemas and Theatres	...	...	...	...	21
Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	163
Smoke, Colour and Water Tests to Drains	...	...	...	...	44
Factories	...	...	...	...	68
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	20
Outworkers' Premises	...	...	...	...	18
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	10
Infectious Disease and Disinfection	...	...	...	...	331
Scabies and Verminous Conditions	...	...	...	...	37
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	96
Rats and Mice Destruction Act	...	...	...	...	447
Refuse Receptacles and Conveniences	...	...	...	...	1714
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	194
Re-visits to Property under Notice	...	...	...	...	1421

Schools, Churches and Chapels ... ..	20
Smoke Observations and Visits ... ..	62
Miscellaneous Visits and Salvage ... ..	1298
Housing Enquiries re Application for Council Houses ... ..	503
Houses inspected re Overcrowding ... ..	47
Houses inspected re Vermin ... ..	42
Houses inspected re Housing Defects:—	
Public Health Acts 217: Housing Acts 190... ..	407
Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... ..	452
Meat and Other Foods Inspections:—	
Slaughter-houses ... ..	180
Butchers' Shops ... ..	405
Food Stalls and Vehicles ... ..	264
Bakehouses ... ..	34
Other Food Preparing Premises ... ..	101
Fish Frying Premises ... ..	40
Fish Shops ... ..	20
Shops ... ..	270
Food Depots and Stores ... ..	70
Cowsheds, Milk Purveyors' Premises and Vehicles ... ..	133
Complaints:—	
No. of Complaints received ... ..	214
No. referred to other Departments... ..	23
Summary of Complaints:—	
Accumulations ... ..	5
Defective Closet Accommodation ... ..	27
Dirty Houses ... ..	5
Housing Defects ... ..	107
Overcrowding ... ..	5
Keeping of Animals ... ..	4
Miscellaneous Nuisances ... ..	19
Obstructed Drains and Sewers ... ..	36
Smoke Nuisances ... ..	1
Verminous Houses ... ..	5
	214
Notices Issued:—	
No. of Informal Notices served ... ..	792
No. of Statutory Notices Served ... ..	9
No. of Nuisances Abated ... ..	1630
No. of Notices to Day Schools re Infectious Disease ... ..	147
No. of Notices to Sunday Schools ... ..	88
No. of Notices to Librarians ... ..	73
No. of Library Books Disinfected ... ..	87



# **SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS MADE AND DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING THE YEAR, UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AND HOUSING ACTS.**

## **INTERIOR OF HOUSES:—**

Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Floors re-laid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	108
Windows repaired or provided with sashcords	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Fireplaces or Ovens repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Insufficient lighting remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Insufficient ventilation remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Pantries ventilated or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Washing coppers provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26

## **Baths, Lavatory Basins, etc.:—**

Baths provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Wash-hand basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Sink waste pipes trapped or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Bath waste pipes trapped or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Wash-hand basin waste pipes trapped	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15

## **Water Supply:—**

Internal supply of water provided (Taps fixed over sinks)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
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## **Overcrowding:—**

Overcrowding remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
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## **EXTERIOR OF HOUSES:—**

Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
Walls pointed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Eaves and Downspouts provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43

## **Drainage:—**

Downspouts disconnected from drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Drains re-laid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Additional drains provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
New Inspection Chambers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Inspection Chambers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Interceptors provided on main drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Drains ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Soil pipes repaired or altered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
New gully traps provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58



Insanitary gully traps abolished ... ..	3
Underground rainwater cisterns abolished ... ..	2
Drains Tested with smoke, water or colour fluid ... ..	44
Water removed from cellars ... ..	2
Cesspools abolished ... ..	1
Yards and Outbuildings:—	
Wash-houses built, repaired or limewashed ... ..	11
Coalhouses built or repaired ... ..	20
Yards paved or repaired ... ..	47
Yard surfaces cleansed... ..	34
Urinals:—	
New Urinals erected ... ..	2
Urinals cleansed or repaired ... ..	1
Urinals provided with flushing apparatus ... ..	1
Unsatisfactory Urinals abolished ... ..	1
Privies, Pail Closets, Cesspools and W.C.s:—	
Privies converted into water closets ... ..	—
Pail closets converted into water closets ... ..	—
Trough closets converted into water closets (Factory) ... ..	6
Pail closet receptacles renewed ... ..	6
New W.C. Buildings erected... ..	17
Water closet accommodation repaired ... ..	27
Water closets provided with new pedestals ... ..	20
Defective water service repaired ... ..	82
Defective flushing apparatus repaired or renewed ... ..	46
Additional W.C.'s provided ... ..	11
Sanitary conveniences limewashed ... ..	27
Insufficient sanitary accommodation remedied ... ..	11
W.C.'s cleansed ... ..	20
Ashpits and Dustbins:—	
Dry ashpits abolished ... ..	1
Dustbins provided in lieu of ashpit ... ..	2
Dustbin renewals ... ..	320
Miscellaneous Nuisances:—	
Nuisances from keeping swine ... ..	5
Nuisances from keeping other animals ... ..	6
Accommodation for animals limewashed ... ..	3
Accumulations of manure removed ... ..	12
Disused outer buildings demolished... ..	9
Smoke Abatement:—	
Smoke Nuisances Abated ... ..	7

### SUMMARY OF REGISTERED PREMISES.

Slaughter-houses—Licensed 18. Registered 3.

	(Not in use)	...	21
Offensive Trade Premises	...	...	3
Workplaces	...	...	27
Outworkers' Premises	...	...	12
Factories	...	...	99
Bakehouses	...	...	16
Fish Frying Premises	...	...	27
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	24
Other Food Preparing Premises	...	...	38
Farms or Other Premises used as Dairies	...	...	35
Cowsheds	...	...	74
Milk Purveyors—Retail 27, Wholesale 28	...	...	55
Milk Purveyors who reside outside but retail within this area	...	...	1

## HOUSING.

At the present time most attention appears to be focussed upon the provision of new housing accommodation. Whilst new housing will in due course proceed apace, one trusts that there will soon be a larger supply of materials for rendering existing property in all respects fit for human habitation.

Every effort has been made to improve existing accommodation, but the time is awaited when no landlord can claim that limitation of labour or materials renders it impossible for him to carry out work on his property essential to the health of those who dwell therein.

There also seems a clear case for the provision of dwellings for old people, and with a little persuasion, the majority at present occupying good houses that are too big for them, would be willing to move if a small house could be made available to them.

Deterioration is also very marked in the number of houses in connection with which demolition orders are operative, and it is to be hoped that it will prove possible in the not too distant future to rehouse these families and demolish the unhealthy structures in which they at present reside.

Applications for tenancy of Council Houses are received by the Health Department, the letting of houses being the duty of the Council. In assessing each application, a report is given of the circumstances of each applicant, enquiries are made, and the relative effects of the differing conditions on the health, comfort and happiness of the families concerned, are considered. The assessing of degree of need is anything but a simple task in many cases. As regards a points system, unsuitable housing conditions and their effect on individuals cannot always be expressed adequately in numerical terms.

When tenants are housed by the Council, the tenants must meet their responsibilities by taking reasonable care of the property, not sub-letting without permission, maintaining its cleanliness and good appearance, cultivating the gardens, and, of course the regular paying of rent. The carrying out of a minor repair is also not too much to expect, but some refuse to do the smallest handyman jobs on the ground that such are the landlord's responsibility.

High in degree of need are overcrowded families, also those sharing someone else's house with the irritations associated with the sharing of kitchens, domestic conveniences, etc., and the extent to which such conditions stimulate neurosis and injure relationship cannot fully be appreciated.

The summary of the Council House applications during the year revealed the sizes of the families to be as follows:—

Families consisting of:—

1 Person — 13	6 Persons — 56
2 Persons — 357	7 Persons — 20
3 Persons — 369	8 Persons — 16
4 Persons — 209	9 Persons — 11
5 Persons — 109	10 Persons — 1
	11 Persons — 2

Fifty Prefabricated Bungalows at Codnor were completed and let during the year, and tenants were selected for eighteen permanent type houses in course of erection at Codnor.

## HOUSING STATISTICS.

No. of new houses erected during 1946:—

1. By the Local Authority (Prefabricated Type) ... ..	50
2. By Private Enterprise (Permanent Type) ... ..	43
Total ... ..	93

No. of Houses Demolished during 1946 ... ..	4
Estimated number of houses in the area ... ..	6499

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	407
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... ..	452
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	2
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... ..	6
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	2
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation... ..	305

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	185
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3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... ..	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	4
(3) Number of houses demolished in anticipation of formal procedure under the Housing Act, 1936 ... ..	Nil.
Number of dwelling-houses where undertakings were accepted ... ..	Nil.

**NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES COMPLETED DURING  
1946 IN WARDS.**

	Heanor.	Langley Mill.	Langley & Marlpool.	Loscoe.	Codnor.
By Local Authority	—	—	—	—	50 (pre-fabs.)
By Private Enterprise	34	2	3	4	—
	34	2	3	4	50
<hr/>					
By Local Authority ...	...	...	...	50	
By Private Enterprise ...	...	...	...	43	
				—	
Total ...	...	...	...	93	
				—	

The following table shows the number of houses erected since 1921:—

Year	Houses Erected by the Council.	Subsidy Houses Erected by Private Enterprise	Non-Subsidy Houses Erected by Private Enterprise	Total.
1921	22	—	25	47
1922	50	—	13	63
1923	6	—	42	48
1924	—	8	45	53
1925	—	78	23	101
1926	—	42	13	55
1927	50	35	9	94
1928	90	25	10	125
1929	112	28	7	147
1930	—	—	19	19
1931	10	—	28	38
1932	138	—	52	190
1933	26	—	100	126
1934	52	—	150	202
1935	19	—	139	158
1936	56	—	149	205
1937	—	—	122	122
1938	106	—	142	248
1939	—	—	79	79
1940 to 1945	—	—	—	Nil.
1946	50 (Prefabs.)	—	43	93
<hr/>				
Totals	787	216	1210	2213

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the area.

## TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

The erection, location, and use of moveable dwellings of all kinds, and the use of land for the accommodation of such dwellings, and for camping purposes, are controlled by local authorities, and no person may allow his land to be used for camping purposes on more than forty-two consecutive days, or for more than sixty days in any consecutive twelve months, unless either he is licensed by the local authority to do so, or each person using the land as a site for a moveable dwelling is licensed to erect or station his dwelling on that land. No licence is in operation, and all caravans attending the Annual Fairs in the district were visited during their brief stay; the vans were all found to be in a satisfactory condition, no case of infectious disease was met with, and the majority of the vans were provided with chemical closets and dustbins.

## OUTWORKERS.

There were 12 premises in use for this purpose at the end of the year.

Eight lists containing names and addresses of 13 outworkers were received during the year, and particulars relating to one of these employed outside this area was forwarded to the local authority concerned.

The Home Work carried on was as follows:—

Nature of Work.	No. of Outworkers:	
	Males.	Females.
Clothing ... .. 7	—	7
Hosiery ... .. 1	—	1
Lace and Plain Net ... .. 4	—	4

Eighteen visits of inspection were made and the premises concerned were in a satisfactory condition.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

The following work has been carried out during the year:—

No. of visits to infected houses ... ..	331
No. of Rooms disinfected (Houses and Schools) ... ..	117
No. of Notices to Day Schools ... ..	147
No. of Notices to Sunday Schools... ..	88
No. of Notices to Librarians ... ..	73
No. of Library Books disinfected ... ..	87
No. of Library Books destroyed ... ..	Nil.
No. of lots of Bedding destroyed upon request... ..	25
No. of rooms disinfected (Scabies) ... ..	19

## DISINFESTATION.

No. of Houses infested (Bugs) ... ..	5
(a) Council Houses ... ..	2
(b) Other Houses ... ..	3
No. of Houses disinfested ... ..	5



**SCABIES**—The Cleansing Station again proved useful, 79 cases of Scabies were dealt with during the year, and 23 cases of Lice. 154 treatments were given for scabies and 44 for lice.

All infestations due to bugs are dealt with by the Health Department Staff, and as regards cockroach infestations, these in the past proved a difficult problem and numerous insecticides of varying efficacy were used. Many extravagant claims have been made in the past for a large proportion of insect powders, etc., and the validity of such claims was not always fully substantiated, incidentally one class of powder may have been quite effective against one type of insect but had no effect whatsoever against other species. Insecticides incorporating 5% D.D.T., and also Gammexane Dust, have therefore been used with marked success, and the pleasing feature has been the freedom from re-infestations over long periods.

### **ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

One complaint was received and 7 smoke nuisances were abated. 62 smoke observations and visits were made, and warnings were given where excessive emissions of smoke were met with. One Factory chimney gave a certain amount of trouble, and a Colliery Waste Tip which was on fire required attention.

Wastage and misuse of coal are the principal causes of smoke, and if coal could be used with greater efficiency—employing only already proven techniques—there might be a substantial quantity for export.

Smoke from industrial and household chimneys has for long been recognised as a serious menace to health and to urban amenities, as well as a heavy burden to the nation. Its presence is also proof that a great deal of coal is being wasted, and the case for smoke prevention is becoming more closely linked with the urgent drive for fuel efficiency and the long-term question of coal conservation.

There is now a growing realisation that reconstruction and new building can be planned for smokelessness, and the production of appliances and smokeless derivatives of coal are among the factors that have recently given a remarkable impetus to the campaign for clean air. The present short-term rationing policy may perhaps temporarily hinder smoke abatement by slowing down the change-over to smokeless mediums, but eventually there must be an intensification of all work for fuel efficiency in industry, for the training of stokers, and in making available new plant and equipment that is needed to enable industry to burn fuel more economically. On the domestic side the greatest advances are possible. New generating plant for electricity is of course an obvious need, but new carbonization plant must also be provided to give both gas and smokeless solid fuel, and even before smokeless fuels are fully available improved appliances can save coal and reduce smoke.

It is estimated that the weight of smoke emitted in this country from burning coal is nearly three million tons a year, and it has been shown by the Fuel Research Station of the Department of Scientific and Industrial



Research that, with an industrial boiler chimney emitting black smoke, the loss may be as much as ten per cent of the heat of the coal. The success of the Ministry of Fuel and Power's campaign for industrial fuel economy in reducing the emission of sulphur dioxide and smoke by as much as ten per cent in a single year shows what can be done. The main task to-day therefore, is not to dwell as formerly upon the ravages of atmospheric pollution, now universally recognised as a national waste, but the more constructive work as to how this pollution can be diminished most effectively and in the shortest possible time, as it seems of little use to lament the shortage of coal for every purpose, industrial, domestic and export, when we scatter  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 million tons of it unburnt into the air to cause damage to health, buildings and vegetation, which, with other costs conservative authorities have estimated at two million pounds per week.

Jaded as our minds may be with astronomical statistics, a mere  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 million tons of coal a year may not appear sensational. Nevertheless it represents four days output for every miner in this country, and would be enough to provide an extra four or five hundred-weight of fuel to every family during the winter.

Copies of *The Stokers Manual*, a booklet which was prepared under the direction of the Fuel Efficiency Committee of the Ministry of Fuel and Power, were obtained during the year, and copies of this very useful manual were sent to the chief firms in the district to pass to Stokers and Engineers, as the interest of Stokers is conceded to be of importance in smoke prevention.

### REGISTER OF RAINFALL IN 1946.

Summary of observations taken at Milnhay Outfalls, Langley Mill, by Mr. R. Archer, Surveyor:—

	Inches	Days of Rain.
January ... ..	1.94	on 12
February ... ..	2.73	„ 13
March ... ..	.92	„ 5
April ... ..	.93	„ 6
May ... ..	1.24	„ 8
June ... ..	2.58	„ 17
July ... ..	1.77	„ 10
August ... ..	3.79	„ 15
September ... ..	2.98	„ 13
October ... ..	.82	„ 6
November ... ..	4.58	„ 21
December ... ..	2.73	„ 19
	<hr/> 27.01	on 145
	<hr/>	<hr/>
1945 ... ..	25.55	on 143
1944 ... ..	34.55	on 188
1943 ... ..	22.04	on 151

## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The approximate number and type of sanitary conveniences in use in the area at the end of the year were as follows:—

		Heanor Ward.	Langley Mill Ward.	Langley & Marlpool Wards.	Loscoe, Codnor &c. Wards.	Total.
Water Closets	...	2608	1470	1246	1825	7149
Pail Closets	... ..	3	1	5	44	53
Privy Middens	...	2	0	3	35	40
Dry Ashpits	... ..	2	1	0	2	5
Dustbins...	... ..	2479	1340	1207	1737	6763

## PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE.

**REFUSE COLLECTION**—During the year, the regular weekly collection of refuse was maintained. Being a mining area, the refuse during the winter months is of an exceptionally heavy nature due to the inferior class of fuel issued to Miners. The matter was referred to the Colliery Company concerned, but nothing could be done about it. The life of a dustbin is rather limited when used for this class of refuse, but fortunately the previous shortage of dustbins was overcome, and the situation improved substantially. Much extra labour, transport and cost are however involved in removing this class of material each winter, and which is perhaps understandable in a Colliery district.

**REFUSE DISPOSAL**—Three controlled tips are in use and in each case the land is being re-claimed for useful purposes. Cricket infestations which caused trouble in recent years have now been completely overcome by the application of a suitable powder. Rats are destroyed immediately they put in an appearance, and the system of tipping is such that no complaints arise.

**SALVAGE**—Recoveries have been maintained fairly evenly during the year, but public interest has had to be sustained. Kitchen waste and waste paper are more urgently needed to-day than at any time during the war, and efforts have been made to increase recoveries. A proportion of paper has been finding its way into the dustbins and is therefore a loss to industry. People have therefore been encouraged to make waste paper available for collection, and regular collections are in operation.

Communal Kitchen Waste bins situated in some parts of the area again came in for a certain amount of abuse during the winter nights, being maliciously emptied or upset. Tolerated as a war necessity, they are also regarded by a few fastidious citizens as being objects for removal from their immediate neighbourhood. The Government however, expects all patriotic citizens to co-operate in their own and the national interest, as the economic and food situation renders it impossible to dispense with waste food collection.



## **PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.**

There are four of these owned and maintained by the Council, and new and more public conveniences are required to serve the district. The receipts from automatic locks during 1946 was £100/16/1d.

## **SANITARY CONDITIONS OF MUSIC HALLS, THEATRES, Etc.**

All premises were visited periodically, and no action was necessary as conditions were satisfactory.

## **RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919. INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.**

This subject received full attention during the year as it is now generally understood that the cost of getting rid of rats is less than it is to keep them alive, whilst from a public health point of view it must not be overlooked that the rat can act as a carrier of disease. The justification for the expenditure involved in destroying rats, and which is not excessive, provides a not unsatisfactory immediate dividend.

Following the receipt of information or complaint of rat infestation, the premises concerned are promptly dealt with and the occupiers are given the opportunity of employing the Council's rat catcher, or alternatively, engaging other approved rat catchers. The employment of the Council's rat catcher is always advised, however, as other rat catchers through not being conversant with the latest scientific methods of extermination, may merely secure a "creaming" of the rat population. Where occupiers fail to take steps—no case occurred during the year—notice would be served.

The treatment applied involves pre-baiting for two or three days, poison baiting on the third or fourth days, followed up with post baiting. In the event of subsequent treatment proving necessary a different bait and poison are used. Pre-baiting and post baiting are now well established and have proved successful over a period of years, whilst the guidance and advice in the *Rodent Mail* and by the Divisional Rodent Officer and Staff is much appreciated.

There are no major infestations in the area, due to systematic inspection, and notifications by the public; 20 notifications were received during the year. The size of any infestation is classified as Minor (less than 20 rats), Major (between 20 and 200 rats) and Reservoir (over 200 rats). All infestations have come under the Minor classification, and the rat population is now apparently diffused and slightly more difficult to deal with, as this condition involves the laying of a large number of baits, relative to the number of rats. The most important factor, therefore, is the number of rats remaining alive after a poisoning campaign, this being more important than impressive kills or any estimate of the number killed, as the survivors or residual population can quickly reach the original number in existence

when the initial poisoning campaign commenced. With inefficient control measures, therefore, the effects of such control can be balanced by breeding and little progress is secured towards complete eradication when the rat's capacity for breeding is realised. The young mature after three or four months, the gestation period is about three weeks, and litters average about eight. It is therefore unquestionably the live remainder that determines the success of all operations, and poisoning—providing it is properly done—is by far the most effective method of killing rats, as by baiting sequence and follow-up treatments, it is usually possible to obtain a kill of from eighty to one hundred per cent., whilst any dangers attached to the use of poisons can be avoided by adopting reasonable precautions which are of course essential.

In most cases complete clearance has been secured, but Sewers, Sewage Outfalls, Allotments and Refuse Tips have been subject to re-infestation. There is also definite evidence that effective attacks on rats in sewers reduces the volume of surface infestations.

The Council's Allotments, Depots, Sewage Works, Refuse Tips, etc., all received regular maintenance treatments, whilst Brook Courses, Business Premises and Private Dwelling-houses, Piggeries, Slaughter-houses, etc., were also dealt with. The Council's Rat Catcher again performed excellent work during the year.

One treatment of the thirty-six miles of sewers in the area was carried out during August-September, with a follow-up treatment of thirty-two manholes, which showed complete pre-bait takes during the first treatment; a second treatment of the whole system is to be given during February, 1947.

#### SEWER TREATMENT.

								First	Follow
Sections 1 to 7 inclusive.								Treatment.	up.
Number of Manholes ... ..								307	33
Average Pre-bait Takes:—									
Complete ... ..								32	0
Partial... ..								38	7
Total Takes ... ..								70	7
No takes ... ..								237	26
Poison Taken:—									
Complete ... ..								14	0
Partial... ..								42	7
Total Takes ... ..								56	7
No Takes ... ..								251	26
Estimated Kill, 1st Treatment ... ..								557 Rats.	
Estimated Kill, Follow-up ... ..								46 Rats.	
Total ... ..								603 Rats.	



RATS DESTROYED UPON COUNCIL DEPOTS, WORKS,  
SEWERS, TIPS, PROPERTIES AND LAND.

									Rats.
Sewers (Estimated Kill)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	603
Sewage Outfalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	128
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90
Depots (Salvage)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Works Depots	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Recreation Grounds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Allotments	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	225
Cemeteries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Council Housing Estates and Other Buildings and Land	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Brook Courses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Total									1177

RATS DESTROYED UPON BUSINESS PREMISES AND  
PRIVATE DWELLING-HOUSES.

Business Premises Cleared	... 23	Rats Destroyed	... .. 116
Dwelling-houses Cleared	... 58	Rats Destroyed	... .. 88

(51 Council Houses were also dealt with and cleared during the year. In most cases fowls were kept upon or adjoining these houses).

									SUMMARY.	Rats.
Council Sewers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	603
Council Properties and Land	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	574
Private and Business Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	204
										1381

A further 400 rats at least can be added if the number killed is calculated in accordance with poison taken.

A number of business premises and dwelling-houses were also treated for Mice Infestations during the year and subsequently cleared. As regards mice, pre-baiting and poison methods were applied with success. Mice become fertile as early as six weeks of age, the number of litters per year is approximately five, and the average number of young in individual litters is between two and thirteen. It can be seen, therefore, that if mice are given freedom to live their normal lives, trapping in a small way is not likely to interfere very much in preventing the normal increase by breeding once they are established.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Meat and Other Foods surrendered as unfit for human food and in connection with which condemnation certificates were issued:—

	lbs.
Bacon ... ..	126
Cheese ... ..	34
Dates ... ..	70
Fats ... ..	194
Fish ... ..	188
Meat ... ..	75
Mussels ... ..	224
Other Foods ... ..	8,876
Sugar ... ..	784
Tinned Foods ... ..	726
Tomatoes ... ..	680
Total ... ..	<hr/> 11,977 <hr/>

The twenty-one private slaughter-houses have again been unused excepting in a few instances for the slaughtering, under licence, of an occasional pig. During the year, 149 privately owned pigs were slaughtered by licensed slaughtermen using the humane killer. All carcasses and organs were examined, and any diseased organs, etc., were destroyed.

It appears that the principle of centralised slaughtering will remain. War and the scarcity of animal products which has followed in its train, has reminded us very forcibly of our dependence on an adequate meat supply.

As regards the future, one can visualise the Public Abattoir where the butcher may carry on his own slaughtering during the regulated hours of operation of the abattoir. Others again may prefer to buy supplies from a meat market attached to a public slaughterhouse where slaughtering is carried out for them. The question to be decided in the future will be shall local authorities establish public abattoirs, or shall the State be responsible for such centres?

As regards the transportation of meat, there is now some improvement, and if the instructions of the Ministry of Food are complied with, there should be little cause for complaint. It is understood that D.M.A.'s were asked to co-operate by bringing unsatisfactory transport arrangements to the notice of the appropriate depot manager. It is certainly essential that the standards of hygiene, at all points, when transporting meat from Ministry of Food depots, etc., to butchers' premises, should be beyond reproach, as indifferent transport and handling challenge the success of centralized slaughtering.



Butchers' shops, food preparing premises, market stalls, etc., were regularly visited, and any infringements dealt with.

### **COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES AND MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.**

At the end of the year there were 35 registered farms with 74 cowsheds, in the area.

There were 28 wholesale producers and 27 retailers in the area, and 11 retailers who reside outside but retail within this area, including two firms retailing Pasteurised Milk and who are licensed for this purpose.

24 samples of milk were obtained and submitted to the Derby County Council's laboratory for examination, and any found not up to standard were followed up until subsequent samples proved satisfactory.

Notwithstanding the fact that the supervision of milk production is to be transferred to the control of the Minister of Agriculture at some future date in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, in the meantime it still remains the responsibility of the local authority to enforce the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926—inadequate though these provisions may be.

Under present circumstances it has not been possible to require elaborate and detailed standards of buildings and equipment, but wherever possible, improvements in the construction of cowsheds and dairies are secured, works of an essential character are carried out, but emphasis has been placed upon the cleanliness of production and distribution, as possible sources of contamination are numerous and varied, and include the milking operations, unclean milk utensils, upon the dairy or consumer's premises, or in course of transit or distribution.

Farmers are also encouraged to obtain a licence to produce accredited milk, and of the 35 farms in the district, 16 of these are licensed for accredited milk production, giving a percentage of 45.7 producing accredited milk.

### **FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.**

Mr. R. W. Sutton, B.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S., the County Analyst, has kindly supplied particulars of samples taken in this district on behalf of the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority.

85 samples were taken in the area of the Heanor Urban District Council during the year 1946, 55 of these being Milks.

Four samples of milk were found to be deficient in fat and one sample contained a small amount of added water. The vendors of these samples were cautioned.

The remaining samples were all satisfactory.

### **BAKEHOUSES, FISH FRYING PREMISES AND FOOD PREPARING PREMISES.**

Frequent visits of inspection were made to these premises and certain improvements were effected relating to cleansing, re-decorating, improved lighting and ventilation, etc.

Much havoc can be wrought in a community by any individual engaged in the manufacture or handling of food who is suffering from an infectious ailment, or is an unclean person. The provision of well-planned and constructed premises and the installation of modern equipment is to be encouraged, but in addition, commonsense measures against dirt and other sources of contamination must be taken.

All reputable traders welcome visits of inspection, but there are the few who could with advantage devote similar attention to the back apartments as that given to the front shop, as food can be contaminated behind the scenes, and it is necessary to bring home to some persons the need for utmost cleanliness, which is all the more necessary now that equipment and materials are difficult to obtain. In particular, it is necessary to stress the importance of frequently washing the hands and scrubbing the nails, and to require the provision of proper washing facilities.

An enlightened and discriminating public, progressive and experienced managements, suitably trained employees, and a helpful inspectorate are all necessary to secure the hygienic standard of food which forms such an important part in the national life. The chief items that require most protection are milk, ice-cream, bread and meat, incidentally the ice-cream question is receiving attention and good progress is being made. The increased development of pre-packed foods is to be commended, and also the cleansing of food vehicles and their design.

### **OFFENSIVE TRADES.**

There are three offensive trades, the business in each case being conducted on a small scale. 10 inspections were made, 2 notices were served and the nuisances abated. In addition, the Rat Catcher gave attention to two of the businesses. Generally, the premises are maintained in a fair condition.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

88 visits of inspection were made during the year, and contraventions met with were remedied. In one factory new sanitary accommodation was provided, and in 24 cases, cleansing and whitewashing, etc., was carried out.

Four notices in pursuance of Section 9 were also received from H.M. Inspector of Factories relating to Factories occupied by Messrs. Cox, Jackson, Gaunt (Loscoe) and Pickersgill and Frost. The two latter were remedied, the two outstanding having arranged to re-construct their premises embodying new and satisfactory sanitary accommodation.

## HEALTH EDUCATION.

The experience of the war years proved the value of mass publicity methods in supplementing personal instruction on health matters. The Central Council for Health Education is recognised by the Minister of Health as the responsible body for assisting local authorities in health education work, and a whole range of posters, leaflets, films and exhibition material, etc., is available. Posters and leaflets are obtained when required, and the Empire Marketing Board posters are changed frequently.

## SHOPS ACT, 1912-36.

These duties are performed by Mr. C. G. Bassford, and the following table shows the numbers of premises governed by the above Acts:—

Number of premises where assistants are employed	...	...	195
Number of premises where no assistants are employed	...	...	202
Number of premises unoccupied at the end of the year	...	...	11
			<hr/> 408 <hr/>

One hundred and eleven evenings and nineteen Sundays were occupied by your Shops Inspector in carrying out his duties during the year.

Three hundred and fifty six visits were made during the year. Six official warnings were given for offences relating to the hours of closing and forty-six warnings for other offences, chiefly for omission to display the necessary forms required by the various Acts.

In one instance a prosecution was proceeded with successfully.

In conclusion, I again express my gratitude to the Council and the various Committees for their close interest in the work of the Health Department; to the Clerk to the Council and the Medical Officer of Health for advice and co-operation; to all members of the Health Department Staff for their efficiency, to my colleagues in the other departments for their assistance, and to the foreman and members of the cleansing staff for the manner in which they have carried out their duties.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

ANDREW A. WILSON.









